

RATH et al
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REMARKS

By way of the amendment instructions above, independent claim 1 has been corrected so as to delete therefrom subject matter which was inadvertently reintroduced into the claim when submitted with the responsive Amendment IV dated January 11, 2007. In this regard, the deleted subject matter is superfluous in view of the amendments submitted on July 14, 2006 as supplemented with the amendment dated July 26, 2006.

The pending claims herein are submitted to be patentable in view of the reasons advanced in Amendment IV dated January 11, 2007, which reasons are expressly incorporated hereinto by reference.

An early and favorable reply on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Bryan H. Davidson
Reg No. 30,251

BHD:bcf
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100